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Annual Report 1995/96



Alberta Motion Picture Development Corporation



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CORPORATE PROFILE

The Alberta Motion Picture Development Corporation (AMPDC) is a crown corporation created by the Government of Alberta in 1981.

AMPDC was the first crown corporation formed to facilitate the development of an independent, regional motion picture and television industry in English speaking Canada. It acted as a primary agency in assisting private sector film and television businesses in creating, producing, and marketing Alberta made feature motion pictures, documentaries, television dramas and situation comedies for sale domestically and internationally. Services included specialized consultation and financial support to projects. It has reported to the Government of Alberta through the Minister of Alberta Economic Development and Tourism.

AMPDC has been governed by a six member Board of Directors and its administration managed by a staff of three full time employees. The industry advises the AMPDC through the Corporation's Industry Advisory Committee.

Viable motion picture companies thrive on the strength of first class ideas, but without a strong business infrastructure these ideas would never be realized and the economic benefits and employment they make possible would be lost. AMPDC has been a catalyst in making this economic advantage happen in Alberta. Partnering with the private sector, AMPDC contributed to building an infrastructure providing the motion picture industry with the

ability to meet the increasing demand and its own growth potential.

AMPDC's mandate has been to assist Alberta film and television businesses to produce motion pictures, resulting in economic benefits and jobs to Albertans. AMPDC provided financial support and specialized consultation to established producers and their companies, as well as consultative support to all individuals in the industry. This provided opportunities for the Alberta motion picture industry and the people it employs.

Alberta's independent film and television production industry is a rapidly growing sector which contributes millions of dollars of investment to Alberta, and creates hundreds of jobs for Albertans annually. Alberta now has a well organized and experienced film making and television production capability. Now that the industry has developed to a point where it can be self-sustaining, there is no longer a role for AMPDC. The six member Board of Directors was replaced on March 31, 1996 by a three member board from the Department of Economic Development and Tourism. The winding up of the Corporation's activities will be administered by the Department of Economic Development and Tourism.

BUSINESS HIGHLIGHTS

1995-96 saw AMPDC continue to be a catalyst for significant growth, economic activity and employment for Albertans in the midst of a rapidly growing film and television production industry.

Alberta now has a well organized and experienced film making and television production capability. The skill and professionalism of the crews and services have attracted major international projects in 1996 including Morgan Creek's "**Wild America**" and Paramount's series "**Viper**".

The Government of Alberta, through AMPDC, invested \$10 million in Alberta's television and film industry over its 15 years of operations. In a final move to support the Alberta film industry, AMPDC committed the remaining \$1 million to two Alberta productions, "**North of 60**" and "**Jake and the Kid**". In 1995/96, these two dramatic series alone generated over \$13 million in spending in Alberta, creating over 200 jobs.

This was also a year of milestones for the Alberta film and television production industry, and for AMPDC supported productions. Arvi Liimatainen's two hour made-for-TV movie "**The Ruby Silver**" was presold to the ABC television network -- and ABC-TV has indicated that it will be a key program in their Saturday night family movie schedule. Alberta's first half hour sit-com pilot, "**Nobody's Business**" was completed in the Fall of 1995. The made in Alberta feature length

family film "**Song Spinner**" opened the Atlantic Film Festival, taking the *Children's Choice Award*. "**Song Spinner**" has realized tremendous economic benefits for Alberta, creating 80 jobs and generating in excess of \$2.2 million in production spending in Alberta.

The Alberta industry has improved and is doing well for several reasons: the professional production infrastructure that has been developed to ensure quality productions; picturesque film locations; AMPDC's scrutiny of viable projects; and no sales tax. AMPDC was key to the development of infrastructure for the film and television industry in Alberta. Through their joint ventures with the private sector, AMPDC helped create hundreds of jobs and helped bring millions of investment dollars to Alberta.

AMPDC continued the management of some 86 development and production projects. These projects will be administered by the Department of Economic Development and Tourism.

1995/96 PORTFOLIO

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

<u>Project</u>	<u>Production Company</u>	<u>Genre</u>
Aardvark & Pretzel	Jest A Production Company Inc.	T.V. Series
About Being Single	543869 Alberta Ltd.	T.V. Documentary
Age of Rebellion	Marie-Ann Films Ltd.	Feature Film
Al	634180 Alberta Ltd.	Feature Film
Amber Valley	Amber Valley Productions Inc.	Feature Film
Badlands	Badlands Productions (1988) Inc.	Feature Film
The Beat	Great North Productions Inc.	T.V. Series
Big Bear	Great Plains Productions Inc.	Movie-of-the-Week
Billy Bowes	Billy Boy Film Corporation	Feature Film
Clone of Candide	394935 Alberta Ltd.	Feature Film
The Doll	Kicking Horse Productions Ltd.	Movie-of-the-Week
Evil Blue Devil Man Roams the Voodoo Jungle	Kicking Horse Productions, Ltd.	Feature Film
Freezer Burn	DEF Productions Inc.	Movie-of-the-Week
Jasmin	International Handprint Films Inc.	Movie-of-the-Week
The Keeper	Whiting Communications Ltd.	Feature Film
Life After Marriage	Marie-Ann Films Ltd.	Feature Film
Locating the Eligible Man	543870 Alberta Ltd.	T.V. Series
Mad-Dog Caron	634179 Alberta Ltd.	T.V. Docu-Drama
McClaren's Ride	Great North Productions Inc., Kingsborough Pictures Inc.	Feature Film
The Merry Christmas of Elijah McLeod	617250 Alberta Ltd.	Feature Film
Murder 900	Tohavent Holdings Inc.	T.V. Series
Nobody's Business	WDC Entertainment, Inc.	T.V. Series

Pictures From Valhalla	The Damberger Film and Cattle Company Inc.	Feature Film
Prom Night of the Living Dead	Billy Boy Film Corporation	Feature Film
Rebels - A Journey Underground	Interstate 80 Entertainment Inc.	T.V. Documentary Series
Secret of Samoa	Samoa Project Films Ltd.	T.V. Documentary
Slo Pitch	Anaid Productions Inc.	T.V. Series
The Sun Horse	International Handprint Films Inc.	Movie-of-the-Week
Tango Duro	Bradshaw, MacLeod & Associates Ltd.	Feature Film
True Confessions	Millenium Productions Inc.	T.V. Series
Under the O	Three Ring Productions Inc.	Feature Film
Wacko Package	Wacko Entertainment Corporation	Various
Who Is Watching the Children?	630651 Alberta Ltd.	T.V. Documentary
The Wooden People	International Handprint Films Inc.	Movie-of-the-Week

1995/96 PORTFOLIO **PRODUCTIONS**

<u>Project</u>	<u>Production Company</u>	<u>Genre</u>
A Midsummer Night's Ice Dream	Midsummer T.V. Inc.	Performing Arts Special
Absolutely...Shumka	Absolute Productions Inc.	T.V. Variety
AMPIA Awards, 1992	Alberta Motion Picture Industries Association, Larry Day Productions Ltd.	T.V. Variety
AMPIA Awards, 1993	Alberta Motion Picture Industries Association (AMPIA)	T.V. Variety
Angel Square	Rendez-Vous Films Inc.	Feature Film
Blood Clan	Blood Clan Productions Inc.	Feature Film
Bye Bye Blues	True Blue Films Ltd.	Feature Film
Canadian Ghost Stories: Legends from the West	627141 Alberta Ltd.	T.V. Special
Chrome Dreams	Route 66 Entertainment Inc.	T.V. Series
Connecting II	317537 Alberta Ltd.	T.V. Series
Connecting III	317537 Alberta Ltd.	T.V. Series
Destiny Ridge (Eps. 1 - 13)	Argent Productions Inc., Ridgefilm Productions Inc.	T.V. Series
Destiny Ridge - Cycle II (Eps. 14 - 26)	Argent Productions II Inc., Ridgefilm II Productions Inc.	T.V. Series
From Spirit to Spirit	Great North Productions Inc., Shelf Productions Inc., Blackfella Films PTY Limited, Levande Bilder	T.V. Documentary Series
In Search of the Dragon	Terra North Productions Inc.	T.V. Documentary
Into the Snow Zone	RAP Films Limited	Feature Film
Jake and the Kid	Great North Productions Inc., Just Kidding Inc., Hired Hand Productions Inc., Nelvana Limited	T.V. Series
Killer Image	Flash Frame Corporation	Feature Film
Life After Hockey	Life After Hockey Productions Inc.	Movie-of-the-Week
Local Heroes Festival, 1993	National Screen Institute of Canada	Other
Magic Hour (Tom Alone & High Country)	TV Tom Productions Inc., Sunday Night Productions Inc.	Movie-of-the-Week

<u>Project</u>	<u>Production Company</u>	<u>Genre</u>
Medicine River	Medicine River Productions Limited	Movie-of-the-Week
Messages In Stone	Prehistoric Productions Ltd.	T.V. Documentary
My Mother's Ghost	Winterrode Films Inc., Sixpak Productions Limited	Movie-of-the-Week
My Partners, My People	Great Plains Productions Inc.	T.V. Series
Night Moves - Owls of the Rockies	Night Moves Productions Inc.	T.V. Documentary
North of Sixty (Eps. 1 - 16)	Westventures II Productions Ltd., Screenventures International Inc.	T.V. Series
North of Sixty Cycle II (Eps. 17 - 32)	Westventures II Productions Ltd., Screenventures International Inc.	T.V. Series
North of Sixty Cycle III (Eps. 33 - 48)	Westventures II Productions Ltd., Screenventures International Inc.	T.V. Series
North of Sixty Cycle IV	Westventures II Productions Ltd., Screenventures International Inc.	T.V. Series
Our Home and Native Land	Great Plains Productions Inc., Avante Film Productions Inc.	T.V. Documentary
Our Own Voice: The Nepal Project	Image Works Alberta Inc.	T.V. Documentary
Paris or Somewhere (Playboy)	Sixpak Productions Limited, Western World Productions Inc.	Movie-of-the-Week
Perfect Man	Midnite Cafe Productions Ltd.	Feature Film
Primo Baby	Victory Film Productions Inc.	Feature Film
Ray Bradbury Series I (Eps. 19 - 30)	Kicking Horse Productions, Ltd., RBT IV Productions Inc.	T.V. Series
Ray Bradbury Series II (Eps. 31 - 42)	Alberta Filmworks Inc., RBT V Productions Inc.	T.V. Series
Ray Bradbury Series III (Eps. 43 - 65)	Alberta Filmworks Inc. RBT VI Productions Inc.	T.V. Series
Reel TV (Eps. 1 - 13)	Reel TV Productions Inc.	T.V. Series
Return to the Snow Zone	RAP Productions Ltd.	Feature Film
Road to Saddle River	Saddle River Films Ltd.	Feature Film
Samurai Cowboy	Samurai Cowboy Productions Inc., Entertainment Securities Ltd.	Feature Film
Solitaire	422058 Alberta Ltd.	Feature Film
Song Spinner	Pin Drop Productions Ltd.	Movie-of-the-Week
Strange and Rich	Rich and Strange Productions Inc., Sixpak Productions Limited	Movie-of-the-Week
Strange Empire	Strange Empire Productions Inc.	T.V. Documentary

<u>Project</u>	<u>Production Company</u>	<u>Genre</u>
Sylvan Lake Summer	Kitch In Sync Productions Ltd.	Movie-of-the-Week
They Shoot Movies...Don't They!	Manning Vision	T.V. Series
This Thing Called Love	Thing Called Love Productions Inc.	T.V. Documentary
Wild Encounters	660088 Alberta Ltd.	T.V. Documentary
Jake and the Kid Cycle II	Great North Productions Inc.	T.V. Series
North of Sixty Cycle V	Alberta Filmworks Inc.	T.V. Series



ALBERTA LEGISLATURE

OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL

ALBERTA MOTION PICTURE
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
MARCH 31, 1996

Auditor's Report

Balance Sheet

Statement of Development Fund Income, Expenditure and Fund Balance

Statement of Operating Fund Income, Expenditure and Fund Balance

Statement of Changes in Financial Position

Notes to the Financial Statements



ALBERTA LEGISLATURE

OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL

AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Directors of the
Alberta Motion Picture Development Corporation

I have audited the balance sheet of the Alberta Motion Picture Development Corporation as at March 31, 1996 and the statements of development fund income, expenditure and fund balance, operating fund income, expenditure and fund balance and changes in financial position for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Corporation's management. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit.

I conducted my audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that I plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In my opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Corporation as at March 31, 1996 and the results of its operations and the changes in its financial position for the year then ended in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Peter Valentine

FCA
Auditor General

Edmonton, Alberta
May 27, 1996

ALBERTA MOTION PICTURE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

BALANCE SHEET

MARCH 31, 1996

	<u>1996</u>	<u>1995</u>
<u>ASSETS</u>		
Development Fund		
Cash	<u>\$ 1,131,161</u>	<u>\$ 684,523</u>
Operating Fund		
Cash	50,853	84,886
Accounts receivable	3,050	1,192
Prepaid expenses	-	2,733
Capital assets (Note 3)	<u>-</u>	<u>20,761</u>
	<u>53,903</u>	<u>109,572</u>
	<u><u>\$ 1,185,064</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 794,095</u></u>

LIABILITIES

Development Fund		
Fund balance	<u>\$ 1,131,161</u>	<u>\$ 684,523</u>
Operating Fund		
Accounts payable	25,298	16,970
Fund balance	<u>28,605</u>	<u>92,602</u>
	<u>53,903</u>	<u>109,572</u>
	<u><u>\$ 1,185,064</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 794,095</u></u>

The accompanying notes are part
of these financial statements.

ALBERTA MOTION PICTURE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
STATEMENT OF DEVELOPMENT FUND INCOME, EXPENDITURE
AND FUND BALANCE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 1996

	<u>1996</u>	<u>1995</u>
Income:		
Recoveries from producers - production financing advances	\$ 100,148	\$ 207,569
Recoveries from producers - research and development advances	19,396	87,001
Bank interest	<u>114,661</u>	<u>51,306</u>
	<u>234,205</u>	<u>345,876</u>
Expenditure:		
Disbursements to producers for production financing	1,638,980	1,602,576
Disbursements to producers for research and development	<u>237,920</u>	<u>57,886</u>
	<u>1,876,900</u>	<u>1,660,462</u>
Excess of expenditure over income prior to transfers from the Motion Picture Development Fund	(1,642,695)	(1,314,586)
Transfers from the Motion Picture Development Fund	<u>2,089,333</u>	<u>500,000</u>
Excess (deficiency) of income over expenditure after transfers from the Motion Picture Development Fund	446,638	(814,586)
Due to Motion Picture Development Fund at beginning of year (Note 1)	<u>684,523</u>	<u>1,499,109</u>
Development Fund balance at end of year	<u><u>\$1,131,161</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 684,523</u></u>

ALBERTA MOTION PICTURE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

STATEMENT OF OPERATING FUND INCOME,

EXPENDITURE AND FUND BALANCE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 1996

	<u>1996</u>		<u>1995</u>
	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Actual</u>
	<u>(Note 5)</u>		
Income:			
Contribution from the Province of Alberta	<u>\$ 413,000</u>	<u>\$ 483,000</u>	<u>\$ 412,580</u>
Expenditure:			
Salaries and employee benefits	195,000	194,912	184,467
Travel, industry consultation and conferences	84,100	98,069	61,101
Supplies, services, equipment and maintenance	52,600	45,814	55,680
Professional fees	35,000	36,504	37,515
Office rental	31,300	32,060	30,292
Amortization of capital assets	8,000	5,957	7,021
Honoraria - Board and committee member (Note 6)	<u>7,000</u>	<u>6,101</u>	<u>4,567</u>
	<u>413,000</u>	<u>419,417</u>	<u>380,643</u>
Excess of operating income over expenditure prior to loss due to discontinuance of operations	<u>\$ -</u>	63,583	31,937
Loss due to discontinuance of operations:			
Loss on write off of capital assets (Note 3)		(19,957)	-
Loss on lease (Note 7)		(21,660)	-
Severance pay		<u>(85,963)</u>	<u>-</u>
Excess (deficiency) of income over expenditure		(63,997)	31,937
Fund balance at beginning of year		<u>92,602</u>	<u>60,665</u>
Fund balance at end of year		<u>\$ 28,605</u>	<u>\$ 92,602</u>

ALBERTA MOTION PICTURE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FINANCIAL POSITION

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 1996

	<u>1996</u>	<u>1995</u>
Operating activities:		
Excess (deficiency) of income over expenditure	\$ (1,706,692)	\$ (1,282,649)
Add items not affecting cash:		
Amortization	5,957	7,021
Loss on write off of capital assets	19,957	-
Changes in non-cash working capital balances:		
Accounts receivable	(1,858)	328
Prepaid expenses	2,733	4,420
Accounts payable	8,328	2,057
Cash provided by (used in) operations	<u>(1,671,575)</u>	<u>(1,268,823)</u>
Investing activities:		
Purchase of capital assets	<u>(5,153)</u>	<u>(3,604)</u>
Financing activity:		
Transfer from Motion Picture Development Fund	<u>2,089,333</u>	<u>500,000</u>
Increase (decrease) in cash	412,605	(772,427)
Cash at beginning of year	<u>769,409</u>	<u>1,541,836</u>
Cash at end of year	<u><u>\$ 1,182,014</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 769,409</u></u>
Represented by:		
Development fund	1,131,161	684,523
Operating fund	<u>50,853</u>	<u>84,886</u>
	<u><u>\$ 1,182,014</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 769,409</u></u>

ALBERTA MOTION PICTURE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

MARCH 31, 1996

Note 1 Authority

The Alberta Motion Picture Development Corporation operates under the authority of the Motion Picture Development Act, Chapter M-19.1, Statutes of Alberta 1981, as amended.

Funding Relationship

The Motion Picture Development Act established both the Alberta Motion Picture Development Corporation (the Corporation) and the Motion Picture Development Fund (the Fund). The Act allows the Province's General Revenue Fund to advance up to \$10 million to the Fund. By June 1995, the Fund had received the entire \$10 million.

Contributions from the Fund are paid into the Corporation's Development Fund and used to make disbursements to Alberta companies operating in the motion picture industry. In addition to disbursements made during the current year, the Corporation continues to oversee productions that received funding in previous years.

In December 1994, the Treasury Board decided that the Fund will be wound up in 1995-96 and the remaining assets and liabilities of the Fund transferred to the Corporation. In April 1995, the balance of \$2,076,214 in the Fund, together with accrued interest of \$13,119, was transferred to the Corporation.

Discontinuance of Operations

Effective March 31, 1996, the Corporation ceased normal operations. The Corporation will honor all previous commitments as at March 31, 1996. Any balance remaining in the Corporation's Development Fund after all commitments are honored, will be returned to the Province's General Revenue Fund.

Note 2 Significant Accounting Policies

Capital Assets

Amortization of capital assets was calculated on the declining balance method at rates between 20% to 30%. Amortization charges were recorded up to the cessation of ongoing operations, after which capital assets were written off.

Note 2 Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Disbursements to Producers

Disbursements to producers are accounted for as expenditures in the year in which they are paid. Repayments and interest earned are accounted for as income of the Corporation's Development Fund in the year in which they are received.

Contributions received from the Province of Alberta

Contributions received from the Province of Alberta are recorded as revenue in the year for which they are approved.

Note 3 Capital Assets

	1996				1995
	Cost	Accumulated Amortization	Write Off	Net	Net
Video equipment	\$ 3,802	\$ 3,478	\$ 324	\$ -	\$ 404
Office equipment	40,921	25,603	15,318	-	14,963
Office furniture	35,946	31,631	4,315	-	5,394
	<u>\$ 80,669</u>	<u>\$ 60,712</u>	<u>19,957</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 20,761</u>

Capital assets were transferred to the Department of Economic Development and Tourism at March 31, 1996. As the Corporation did not receive any proceeds of sale, the assets have been written off.

Note 4 Commitments and Contingencies

At March 31, 1996, the Corporation was committed to making research and development, and production financing disbursements of \$94,308 (1995 \$1,904,326) to producers of motion pictures in the year to March 31, 1997. It is anticipated that non-recourse advances of \$944,394 will be made to the producers of "Jake and the Kid" and "North of Sixty" prior to March 31, 1998.

Note 5 Budget

The Corporation's 1995-96 operating budget was approved by the Board on June 15, 1995. There is no budget for the Development Fund.

Note 6 Disclosure of Salaries and Benefits

	1996				1995	
	Number of Individuals	Salary ⁽¹⁾ and Honoraria	Benefits ⁽²⁾ and Allowances	Total	Number of Individuals	Total
Chairman of the Board	1	\$ 3,315	\$ -	\$ 3,315	1	\$ 1,002
Board members	5 ⁽³⁾	1,881	-	1,881	5 ⁽³⁾	2,869
	6	5,196	-	5,196	6	3,871
Advisory Committee	5	905	-	905	5	696
	11	\$ 6,101	\$ -	\$ 6,101	11	\$ 4,567
General Manager	1	57,183	10,618	67,801	1	67,035
Other full-time staff (average 1996 \$45,295, 1995 \$36,107))	3	91,686	19,235	110,921	3	108,322
Casual	-	16,190	-	16,190	-	9,110
	4	\$ 165,059	\$ 29,853	\$ 194,912	4	\$ 184,467

(1) Salary includes regular base pay and severance to employees and honoraria for the Board of Directors.

(2) Employer's share of all employee benefits and contributions or payments made on behalf of employees including pension, health care, group life and medical insurance.

(3) Includes one board member who receives no honorarium.

Note 7 Loss on Lease

The current lease agreement for office space expires on January 31, 1997. The full amount of this obligation has been included in accounts payable and in the loss on lease.

Note 8 Approval of Financial Statements

These financial statements have been approved by the Board of Directors.

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